

SLOECC



San Luis Obispo County

Emergency Communications Council. September 1996.

FROM THE DEC

Where do we go from here? It seems as though we did not have much to do with the SH 58 Fire since only ECC-3 and the EOC were activated and our participation only lasted for 4 hours. Our lack of participation has led to a little soul searching. Are we still relevant? Are we still needed? In my opinion the answer is absolutely YES. However, technology and the changing needs of the agencies we serve are altering our roll.

The technological explosion of recent years has convinced many that we are not needed. They have telephones, cell phones, the Internet, satellite hook-ups, and their own radio systems. What many agencies don't seem to understand is that during a major incident such as an earthquake or large fire, phones and cell phones are often overloaded. Without power, cell phones are only good until the batteries die. The phone company shuts down communications between Area Codes during large incidents. No phone, no Internet. Without reliable phone service the satellite hook-up may be useless. Their radio system will probably be overloaded. Additionally, many locations do not have any reliable

continued on page 3

Editor: Peter Madle, KE6RBV.
2493 Malvern Ave., Cambria.
Internet: pmadle@telis.org

All pertinent copy is welcome - it may be edited (for the usual reasons).

LAST DITCH SUBMISSION DATE is the fourth Wednesday (i.e. at or before the monthly meeting).

Internet, Packet, Snailmail, IBM disk, Printed, Written, Scrawled, Whispered-In-My-Ear, will all get the information to me.

"I can't publish what I don't know".

PLANNING AND TRAINING

A committee of local hams paid a visit to Representative Andrea Seastrand's local office. Our purpose was to enlist her support in our fight to retain the two-meter amateur radio band. (As previously noted in this newsletter, a special committee is studying frequencies to allocate to low-orbit satellites.)

The committee consisted of Ed Reiten (W6QQQ), Roxy Griggs (K6ELO), and myself.

Sandy, Mrs. Seastrand's San Luis Obispo aide, listened to our presentation and advised us that the best thing we could do would be to flood the office with cards and letters from ham radio operators. Sandy noted that with a lot of mail, Mrs. Seastrand could then enlist the support of her fellow Representatives. So keep them cards and letters coming folks.

Her address is:

Andrea H. Seastrand
Representative 22nd District
320 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515-0522

Remember, we're asking for her support to fight off big business and keep the two-meter band safe. The Satellite industry is big business. Congress and the FCC will be under a lot of pressure to give up something. So, be nice, be objective. We don't have to threaten. "Just tell it like it is."

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NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 25th

[See Calendar on page 2]

Time & Place:-

7:30 PM at the Sheriff's Administration
Office Building Auditorium.

Board of Directors Meeting:-
2nd Tuesday; 9 AM at the EOC.

HWY 58 FIRE - SLOECC CALLOUT

The fire started when a spark from an old pickup truck, at Black Mountain Campground, ignited some brush at 2:15 p.m., Thursday, August 15, 1996. One week and 106,668 acres later, the fire was contained.

Bill Palmerson, North County Emergency Coordinator, was contacted by the Office Of Emergency Services via his beeper and started the subsequent callout of SLOECC Emergency Coordinators Richard Dickey, Jack Hunter, and Ed Reiten.

Around mid-evening, people had arrived at ECC-1, EOC/PUBLIC SERVICE to establish communications with the Red Cross now located at a Santa Margarita School which was supported by KE6BFI, Richard Rapp.

An hour or so later, CDF/COUNTY FIRE ECC-10 was activated which completed the initial support of the callout by the Office Of Emergency Services for SLOECC support.

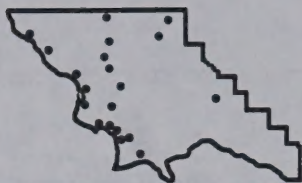
Bill Palmerson had assumed support of the Red Cross facility and subsequent 24 hour staffing as had Richard Dickey for ECC-10, and Hunter/Reiten for ECC-1 staffing. The subsequent 24 hour support staffing of these facilities necessitated the call for volunteers over 145.865 Mhz and landline for the next 4/8 hour shifts starting at midnight.

Around 11:00 p.m. the Office Of Emergency Services advised ECC-1 that they were terminating their support operation of the fire and that SLOECC support should also terminate. Therefore, at approximately mid-night, after all alerted support people were contacted and advised of the revised support requirements, the SLOECC support function was terminated.

Thanks to all who responded to the request for support of these facilities at such unpopular hours!!!!

Ed Reiten, W6QQQ —Emerg. Coordinator

Reproduction, Addressing and Mailing services provided by Achievement House for disabled persons in the County of San Luis Obispo to whom we are most grateful for their continued excellence.



SLOECC•EVENTS

September•1996

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1	2	3 7:30 PM - 7:45 PM RACES NET	4 7:30 PM Estero Net County Dress Rehearsal for FEMA Exercise	5	6	7																																																																																				
8	9 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Paso Robles ARC	10 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM SLOECC Board Mtg 7:30 PM - 7:45 PM RACES NET	11 7:30 PM Estero Net	12 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ESTERO ARC	13	14 SIREN TEST, P. Madle																																																																																				
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29 ARRL National Exam Day	30	<div>MEETING</div> <div>TONIGHT</div> <div> <div>August</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> <div>October</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>					S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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On another note, here is a scenario:

You receive a telephone call. A chemical spill has occurred. They've evacuated several blocks of residential neighborhood. A shelter is being set up at a local school. They need radio operators. It's the middle of the night. You're half asleep. You grab your radio, batteries, a change of clothes and even a mag mount antenna and wire.

When you get to the shelter, you're given a frequency that they're operating on. It's not a usual frequency, they're using a cross-band repeater. To make matters worse, the lights are dim. People are sleeping....you can barely see.

Could you program your radio? Could you remember how to program the CTCSS tone in it? Do you need to refer to the instruction book to program your HT? Would you remember to take it with you?

OK, lets go a bit further. You assume your post. You have your speaker-mic with you, so you put the radio in your pocket. Thirty minutes later, another ham shows up and tells you the EOC has been calling you for fifteen minutes. You check your radio and find you've accidentally pushed a button and it's in some strange mode. Would you remember to "lock" it on the assigned frequency?

Do you use your radio often enough that you remember what frequencies are in it? Do you know what repeaters they operate? Do you use the radio enough so that programming it is second nature to you?

Think about it. If you want to be a useful ARES or RACES team member, learn to run your radio. Also, remember that if your radio batteries are dead, or not fully charged, you are no value to the team.

William Peirce, KE6FKS <wpeirce@thegrid.net>

NEW CALIFORNIA HAM CALL PLATES

Recently, Bill Young KC6VWO, has had a series of conversations with Dick Monteith, our CA State Senator for Stanislaus and Merced counties, about creating a new ham call license plate. What they discussed was the creation of a high-visibility plate, that would stand out much better than the currently-issued plain white plate. This would make hams and their vehicles much more easily recognizable by public safety officials in emergencies, and give hams just a bit more recognition by the general public.

The basic idea is to stamp a colored logo of some type on the plates, indicating Amateur Radio and emergency services (ARES or RACES). There are several designs being worked up now.

Senator Monteith is also on the Transportation Committee. He intends to bring this issue up at the next committee meeting, in September. But Senator Monteith needs some help in getting the issue through committee, as well as to help put pressure on the DMV to create and issue the plates.

Please circulate the petition below, among your club, local group, or your ARES or RACES unit. Please return all completed petition forms to Bill Young, by the first

communications. It is our job to talk to the agencies and let them know what we can do and how we can help them. Also, we have to realize that we may be receiving fewer calls for the smaller incidents since modern technology does help in this area.

Each of us needs to understand that an agency that doesn't understand what we can do will not call us. We are often perceived as no longer being the only communications alternative during emergencies. We need to educate the agencies and their membership about who and what we are, what we can do, and what their limitation might be. A good example was my recent visit to County Schools. I was invited to speak to their employee planning group about ARES/RACES. The reception I got was warm, to say the least. They had no idea of what we could do or how we could help them. My talk prompted at least one contact to our group and may lead to others.

So, what do we do now? It appears that the best thing to do is to keep on doing what we have always done, but try to better inform those we serve. We need to better understand what the various agencies need. We can also look at expanding and refining our services. We have historically been very pragmatic. We will change if there is a good reason.

Many thanks to Bill Palmerston, Richard Dickey, Ed Reiten, Richard Rapp, and those who volunteered to work on the fire, but were not needed. The call-out for the fire did exercise our system and it gave us some good practice.

Bob Gromer WA7NMJ has taken a position as AEC in South County to help Ron and I. With both of us working, another reliable person was needed and Bob has consented to fill the position. *Jack Hunter KD6HHG*

week of September, for delivery to Senator Monteith. Your participation is needed, and appreciated!

Mail your petition to, or get more information from:-

BILL YOUNG, KC6VWO,

% HAM PLATES, PO. BOX 938, CERES, CA 95307

A Petition For the Creation Of A New Amateur Radio Callsign License Plate

We, the undersigned, as residents of California, and licensed Amateur Radio operators, respectfully request the State Senate Transportation Committee, and the State Department of Motor Vehicles, to consider the creation and issuance of a new Amateur Radio Callsign license plate for vehicles. The purpose of this new license plate would be to make Amateur Radio operators, and their vehicles, more easily recognizable to public safety officials, and thus become more readily available to them as emergency communications operators during times of local or widespread emergencies:

Signature _____ Printed Name _____
Addresss _____
Callsign _____

Jennifer Roe <JRoe@micom.com>

GPS out from shadow of Defense Department

**BY R.K. ARORA, IEEE Member, Tlnet/
New Delhi, India**

In the way the discovery of electricity in the 18th century changed our lives, or the way the invention of the steam engine in the 19th century brought about a revolution in society, the technology behind the Global Positioning System (GPS) is poised to influence every walk of life, be it in transportation, communication, disaster management, sports or science.

GPS refers to a system that provides all users, by air, sea or land, an accurate position reading on a 24-hour basis in all weather conditions. The system uses a satellite-based radio positioning technique to provide three-dimensional position, velocity and time to all users equipped with a receiver that can intercept a certain minimum of visible satellite signals.

In the 1950s, Ivan Gettings, an IEEE life fellow and the originator of GPS, realized that if a system of satellite transmitters was deployed such that a minimum of four were always in sight to any receiver on ground, it would be possible to know the location of that receiver in three dimensions, similar to the way a position is determined using the Loran system, a ground navigation system effective in a limited geographical area.

The U.S. Department of Defense approved funding for the development and deployment of a complete Navstar GPS at a cost of US\$ 10 billion, and in 1978 launched the first of a series of a minimum 18 GPS satellites needed for the system to be fully operational. The program was to provide complete worldwide coverage by 1987, but due to the Challenger disaster and the resulting delays in satellite deployment, the system did not become fully operational until 1993.

The U.S. Defense Department was doubtlessly unaware of the enthusiasm this system would arouse worldwide, far beyond the civil aviation community. New applications emerge on an almost daily basis, and military applications, which in the mid-1970s justified such a heavy investment in GPS, have been pushed to the sideline. The broad civil application base made its case to the U.S. DoD, and is now even challenging the exclusive control military authorities over the system.

The GPS market is expected to grow by 45 percent this year, and GPS business is estimated to reach US\$10 billion by the year 2000, with the military share being less than 10 percent.

A further market forecast is US\$30 billion a decade from now. Civil applications are broadly divided: road vehicle tracking, marine navigation, aviation, survey and highly accurate user-positioning applications all depend on GPS.

A significant development that has fueled this growth is a 1993 declaration by U.S. President Bill Clinton offering GPS for worldwide civil aviation for a period of 10 years, with a notice of six years if any developments dictate a withdrawal of the system. Also in 1993, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved the use of GPS as a supplementary aid to navigation for enroute, terminal, and non-precision approach flights. As many civil applications require position accuracies of better than 100 meters, there have been evolutionary developments in GPS which aim to provide accuracies of 1-10m, down to 1-10 centimeters to serve diverse applications.

GPS consists of three segments: the space, ground control, and user segments. The space segment is a constellation of 24 satellites orbiting at 20,200 km in six equally spaced circular orbital planes, each with an inclination of 55 degrees. The orbital period of each satellite is 12 hours.

Every satellite broadcasts signals on frequencies, L1 (1575.42 MHz) and L2 (1227.6 MHz), with pseudo-random code and a navigational message. While the precision code at L2 can only be accessed by DoD authorized users, the coarse acquisition code at L1 is accessible to all users.

The ground control segment consists of five surveillance and tracking stations around the globe. Each GPS satellite is monitored by at least one station at all times. The control center in Colorado is the nerve center of the system. The user segment is the receiver there, which decodes the signals and processes the navigation solution for position, time and velocity information.

[ed, KE6RBV: extracted from The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers publication "The Institute", Aug 1996]

NEW VLF BAND IN UK

The UK-Radiocommunications Agency has announced a new VLF band for Amateur Radio. The RA says the allocation, 71.6 to 74.4 kHz, was assigned following requests from the Amateur Radio community, particularly from radio amateurs who wish to investigate propagation through the ground by transmission from underground caves. The allocation will be available to Class A Amateur Radio licensees in the UK who wish to investigate LF propagation.

QST September 1996

REVOKE YOUR LICENSE?

The ARRL's Regulatory Information Branch reminds hams who have changed their mailing addresses to make sure they let the FCC know right away so they can modify your license. The consequences of not taking that simple step could be serious indeed. As the FCC regulations state: "Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the person failed to provide the correct mailing address." While you're at it, also let us know here at ARRL HQ, so your QST or ARRL Letter subscription goes to the right place. And send a new SASE to your incoming QSL bureau, too.

QST September 1996

WILL AMATEURS BE NEEDED IN FUTURE EMERGENCIES?

[By P. Madle, KE6RBV]

When the earth stopped shaking and rocks stopped falling, Glmgrk led his tribe in a song to thank the gods of the mountain for protecting them. They could see the new slabs of stone covering the valley floor outside their cave.

One large flat slab had smashed down trees and landed on top of some round sections of their trunks. Glmgrk leaned on the slab - and leapt out of the way as it rolled along on the logs. And that, 'Dear Readers', is how Glmgrk discovered THE ROLLER.

WOW, the world was never the same again. Some people, strong men who had specialized in lifting flat rocks, had to change vocations but the others liked the new way of moving heavy things.

The trouble was that the "New Way Of Life" kept on changing! It probably wasn't more than a few thousand years before someone put a hole through a round log and invented THE WHEEL.

Life is not static.

Over the last few decades, Hams have become used to having one of the few techniques capable of communicating during power, telephone, etc., outages.

All that is gradually ENDING. For more than ten years electronic equipment, computers, radios, etc., have doubled in capability every 18 months. They continue to become smaller and cheaper. "Ordinary People" now have equipment that was specialised or non-existent a few years ago!!!!

A significant number of people already use the current versions of cell-phones - the ones with limited range and low power - the ones that usually don't work in remote areas. Within a very few years these range limits will be things of the past. Everyone will have their own personal phone number which will move around the world with them. "Dick Tracey" wrist-watch transceivers for voice, data, fax, or paging, will no longer be the stuff of comic books, production designs are being finalized right now!

Will Amateurs be needed as "Specialized Communicators" when this new equipment is available - I don't think so - virtually anyone with a "dual-mode" cell-phone (see below) will be able to communicate, directly or via satellite, from even the most remote locations without needing a "licensed specialist".

Volunteers of all types will continue to be needed YES - but not as licensed communicators.

WHAT IS THE IRIDIUM SYSTEM?

[ed: The following article was downloaded from
<<http://www.iridium.com.html>>]

[The Iridium satellite communication system will **NOT** use
AMATEUR RADIO BANDS]

The IRIDIUM system is a satellite-based, wireless personal communications network designed to permit any type of telephone transmission — voice, data, fax, or paging — to reach its destination anywhere on earth. The IRIDIUM constellation will consist of 66 interconnected satellites orbiting 420 nautical miles above the

earth. The system will simplify communications for business professionals, travelers, residents of rural or undeveloped areas, **disaster relief teams**, and other users who need the features and convenience of a wireless handheld phone for worldwide use.

Communication Frequencies

The IRIDIUM system will employ a combination of Frequency Division Multiple Access and Time Division Multiple Access (FDMA/TDMA) signal multiplexing to make the most efficient use of limited spectrum. The L-Band (1616-1626.5 MHz), serves as the link between the satellite and IRIDIUM subscriber equipment. The Ka-Band (19.4-19.6 GHz for downlinks; 29.1-29.3 GHz for uplinks) serves as the link between the satellite and the gateways and earth terminals.

Commencement of Service

First satellite launch: 1997

Commercial service: 1998

Space Segment

Constellation of 66 satellites

Six orbital planes, 11 operational satellites, and one on-orbit spare per plane

Polar orbit: 780 kilometers (421.5 miles)

System designed by Motorola, Inc.

Satellite Characteristics

Footprint: 48 spot beams for high signal quality and spectrum efficiency

Link margin: average 16 dB for voice

Intersatellite links: Each satellite in the constellation is connected by radio transmission to four others

Weight: approximately 689 kilograms (1,500 pounds)

Lifetime: design life of five to eight years

Launch Services:

McDonnell Douglas Delta II rockets, each carrying five satellites

Khrunichev State Research and Production Space Center Proton rockets, each carrying seven satellites

China Great Wall Industry Corporation Long March 2C/SD rockets, each carrying two satellites

IRIDIUM Handheld Telephone

Dual-mode: satellite and terrestrial wireless compatible

Digital voice: includes data port for transmitting facsimile and computer files

Transmission rates: voice; data (2400 baud)

Modulation: QPSK with Frequency Division/Time Division Multiple Access (FDMA/TDMA)

The IRIDIUM Gateways

Interface with public switched telephone networks (PSTNs)

The gateways are interlinked with each other by the satellite constellation

Communication Links

L-band: (1616-1626.5 MHz) IRIDIUM telephone communication

Ka-band: (19.4-19.6 GHz for downlinks, 29.1-29.3 GHz for uplinks) Intersatellite links, gateways, and feeder link connections.

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IRIDIUM SYSTEM FUNDING

By Quentin Hardy, Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Monday, August 26, 1996, extracted by KE6RBYJ

"IRIDIUM GETS \$750 MILLION CREDIT LINE, HELPED BY A GUARANTEE FROM MOTOROLA"

Iridium LLC, the ambitious international satellite-communications consortium, has completed a \$750 million credit agreement with a group of 62 banks.

The credit line, co-arranged by Chase Securities Inc., a unit of Chase Manhattan Corp., and the investment banking division of Barclays Bank PLC, was oversubscribed by almost double its sought-for amount. Its success owed much to a financial guarantee by Iridium's powerful backer, Motorola Inc., and is another important step in Iridium's march toward selling global cellular telephone and paging services.

The service, based on cellular telephones in direct contact with a network of 66 low-earth-orbit satellites, is scheduled to begin in September 1998. Iridium plans to launch its first group of satellites by the end of January 1997, and gradually build up an overhead satellite and ground-based network.

The project is spearheaded by Motorola, which owns about 30% of Iridium and is doing much of the program's design and execution. To date, Iridium has raised more than \$2.65 billion from investors, including the \$750 million line of credit.

Despite the success, daunting financial and regulatory hurdles remain. Iridium hopes, by year end to raise an additional \$2.6 billion in debt, which company sources said would involve the participation of about 300 banks around the globe. If successful, it will be the largest private debt placement ever.

In addition to proving its technology, Iridium also must secure transmission rights from more than 180 countries. To date, only a handful have signed up, though the company has only recently initiated an aggressive lobbying campaign.

Money is still a big challenge. Motorola's guarantee and triple-A credit backing helped give the \$750 million credit line an interest rate slightly over the London Interbank Offered Rate, the baseline international commercial lending rate, which stands at about 5%. Iridium's next round of financing isn't likely to be guaranteed by Motorola.

Last September, Iridium tried to raise \$300 million in the high-yield debt market without Motorola's guarantee but withdrew the offering when buyers, wary of both the technology and market prospects for Iridium's service, demanded an interest rate of more than 20% plus an equity stake. The company instead raised \$315 million from equity investors last February.

But the next round still may go better than the first attempt to float debt. Iridium is far closer to its launch date with no obvious looming technological problems so far, and the company also has paid closer attention to the investor community, including giving presentations and tours of its manufacturing facilities.

In addition, the, market for satellite projects has become more favorable. For example, Globalstar LP, another proposed global personal communications system, which last October pulled its own \$400 mil-

lion high-yield offering because of adverse investor response, has seen its share price rise 150% to \$45.75 a share, since then.

Besides Schaumburg, Illinois.-based Motorola, Iridium's investors are China Great Wall Industry Corp., Russia's Khrunichev State Research and Production Space Center, Korea Mobile Telecommunications Corp., Lockheed Martin Corp., Nippon Iridium Corp. of Japan, Raytheon Co., Sprint Corp., Societa Finanziaria Telefonica per Azioni, Pacific Electric Wire & Cable Co., Thai Satellite Telecommunications Co., Vebacom Germany, and a number of regional consortiums. Iridium is based in Washington.

VANITY FILING GATE 2 OPENS SEPTEMBER 23, 1996

The FCC has announced that vanity call sign filing Gate 2 will open September 23. Under Gate 2, Amateur Extra, class licensees may request a vanity call sign on or after that date. File requests on FCC Form 610V. Legibility is critical! If your application is not legible, you could experience a delay in processing, lose the opportunity to obtain a requested call sign or even obtain a call sign different from what you want.

Under Gate 2, you must hold an unexpired Amateur Extra class operator/primary station license to request a vanity call sign for your primary station. To request a vanity call sign for a club station under Gate 2, you must also hold an unexpired club station license listing you as the license trustee. Applicants should refer to the licensee database to verify that a requested call sign is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee.

A \$30 fee is required with your FCC Form 610V application. Payment of fees may be made by check (payable to FCC), bank draft, money order or credit card. If paying by credit card, you must also complete and submit FCC Form 159 with your FCC Form 610V. Do not send cash. Send your application package to: Federal Communications Commission, Amateur Vanity Call Sign Request, PO Box 358924, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924

If you do not qualify under the above eligibility standards, your application will be dismissed. For further information, contact the Consumer Assistance Branch at 800-322-1117.

Ed Reiten, W6QQQ

NEW CALL SIGN? NO PROBLEM!

Some hams sporting call signs newly acquired via the vanity call sign program have worried that the ARRL might lose track of them, especially for QST mailings and various League-sponsored awards programs like DXCC or VUCC. Rest assured, it's not a problem. We deal with changing call signs all the time as hams upgrade. Just let us know about you

QST September 1996

FCC OKAYS ELECTRONIC FILING FOR INDIVIDUALS BY VECs

The FCC will permit VECs to file Amateur Radio Service license renewal and modification applications electronically. ARRL - as one of the country's 16 VECs - is working to establish procedures for the new program. Participating VECs may charge a fee for the service. Most VECs, including the ARRL VEC, already electronically file all applications received from VE testing, a process the FCC said "has been highly successful in eliminating delays in obtaining licenses." The Commission said VECs will not be required to accept applications from individuals for electronic filing, and the FCC will continue to accept hard-copy license renewal and modification applications without a processing charge. But the FCC said it anticipates developing the capability to allow individual hams "to file their applications electronically and receive a license grant immediately."

QST September 1996

FORMS ON-LINE

More FCC forms on line: FCC Forms 610A (Application for permit of an Alien Amateur Radio Licensee to Operate in the United States) and 610B (Application for an Amateur Club, RACES or Military Recreation Station License) now are available from the FCC's forms page on the Internet (<http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/> or <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms>) and via the FCC's fax-on-demand service, 202-418-0177. Forms 610 and 610V already are available from these sources. When requesting forms from the fax-on-demand service, callers must be calling from the handset of their fax machine, and must know the ID number of the form they want. The numbers for the amateur forms are: Form 610: 000610; Form 610A: 006101; Form 610B: 006102; and Form 610V: 006108.

QST September 1996

73 MAGAZINE CONTINUES

Wayne Green II, W2NSD/1, of Peterborough, New Hampshire, said that the recent bankruptcy of certain of his inactive businesses would not affect **73 Amateur Radio Today** magazine or any of his other active businesses.

QST September 1996

SLOECC 1996 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA.

SEPTEMBER 25

General Meeting
Training Briefs
Annual County Emergency
Test/Planning

OCTOBER 23

General Meeting
Training Briefs
Comm. Shop Tech. Check

NOVEMBER 27

General Meeting & Elections
Technical Briefs
R.F. Grounds

DECEMBER —

NO MEETING

FEMA EXERCISE

DATES: 9-4-96 (Dress Rehearsal)

10-9-96 (The real thing)

TIME: "Morning" (expect 8:00 am to 9:00 am)
to about 4:00 pm

ARES/RACES Staff needed (9)

EOC-4 (VHF Voice, UHF Voice, HF Voice, Packett)

Media Center-3 (Portable Packett & VHF Voice)

SLO Schools - 2 (VHF Voice & Backup)

Media Center is at the Old Cuesta College Auditorium

SLO County Schools is off SH #1 near Cuesta College

I will be at the EOC both dates for the entire exercise. If possible, it would be nice to have at least one person at each site who has been thru the exercise before (I haven't).

We will not pre-stage any equipment. I think it would be prudent to have volunteers ready to go for the event, but pre-staging the participants at the exercise sites is probably overkill, also. I think we should be ready to respond from our home or work QTH's. If possible, I would like a list of the participants by 9-2-96. Please note that I will be out of town from 8-26 to 9-1.

From: Jack Hunter KD6HHG <rhunter@slonet.org>

CB MAGAZINE QUITs

CB Radio magazine has suspended publication. There will be no September 1996 issue. In a letter to advertisers, Margaret Milanese, CB Radio's advertising manager, blamed "rapidly escalating production costs, particularly paper" for the move. Subscribers will get Popular Communications until publication of **CB Radio** resumes. Both magazines are products of CQ Communications Inc. of Hicksville, New York.

QST September 1996

FILE COMMENTS BY EMAIL

The FCC is looking into ways to allow electronic filing of formal comments in rulemaking proceedings and on-line access to those comments. The action followed a Notice of Inquiry (PP 96-17) in February that asked how computer technology and the Internet could be used to improve FCC procedures. "The vast majority of commenters advocated expanded use of electronic filing," the Commission said. Current rules require formal comments be filed on paper, so a rulemaking proceeding was needed to permit comments filed via e-mail or on diskette to be treated the same as paper comments. (These rules do not apply to comments filed in regard to WRC-97 preparations, which already may be filed electronically.)

QST September 1996

SLOECC EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 1996

Sep 4	FEMA Rehersal	R.Kemper
Sep 14	Siren Test	P. Madle
Sep 21	Beach Cleanup	R. Kemper
Oct 9	FEMA Exercise	C. Wilson
Nov 27	Critique	BOARD

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES)
RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE (RACES)
EVERY TUESDAY EVENING AT 19:30

Note:- Each ECC has the option as to time and check-in procedure for conducting their own area simplex check-in procedure, but must be ready to check into the Net Control on the Net Frequency at 19:30. Each ECC should advise all on its local simplex frequency to QSY to the Net Frequency.

The assigned Net Control Operator opens the net as follows:-

The steps are numbered to help you announce them as distinct elements separated by pauses

1. QST QST QST all ARES/RACES members and guests.
2. This is ... (your call and name) ... Net control for the San Luis Obispo County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Net, operating from ... (your location) ...
3. This net meets every tuesday evening at 19:30 hours local time on 146.865. Our ARES/RACES repeaters operate from Mount Lowe, located east of highway 101 on Cuesta Ridge. Our UHF repeater is on 443.425. Both of our repeaters use a PL tone of 127.3 hz.
4. The purpose of this net is to provide a weekly test of emergency communications equipment, to exchange information relating to emergency readiness and to provide training in emergency procedures.
5. This is a directed net; to break in or relay please give your call, otherwise please do not transmit unless requested to do so by the net control.
6. Are there any contacts or QST's to be listed? *(Net Control:- record contacts & QSTs in order of listing)*
7. QSTs will be given on this frequency at the close of this net.
8. The first step in the check-in procedure is for all members to check into their local Emergency Communications Centers (ECC) using their local simplex frequencies. If the EC, or alternate, for your area is not available any member may direct this local simplex check-in.
** If you are unable to check-in to your local ECC, or do not wish to use simplex to check-in, a request will be made for you to check-in just after your local ECC has reported into the Net Control Operator.*
9. All ECCs will be called at this time. Please report the number of members checking in and the manner in which the list of calls will be sent to W6RKA.

ECC

ECC-1	Check In
ECC-2	Check In
ECC-3	Check In
ECC-5	Check In
ECC-6	Check In
ECC-10	Check In
ECC-11	Check In
ECC-12	Check In
ECC-16	Check In

COVERAGE

SLO CITY	Area Individual Check In
ARROYO GRANDE	Area Individual Check In
ATASCADERO	Area Individual Check In
MORRO BAY	Area Individual Check In
PASO ROBLES	Area Individual Check In
CDF / COUNTY FIRE	
SOUTH BAY	Area Individual Check In
CAMBRIA	Area Individual Check In
CAL POLY	Area Individual Check In

10. Are there any late or missed members.
11. We cordially invite all visitors interested in Amateur Radio Emergency Service to check-in.
12. Please give your call, name and QTH.
13. ARES meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Sheriff's Administration Building Auditorium located at the end of Kansas Avenue, San Luis Obispo.
14. Stations with QSTs and contacts can proceed at this time in the following order *(announce order)*.
15. Is there any further business, questions or comments regarding ARES/RACES operations.
16. The San Luis Obispo County ARES Net is now officially closed at ____ hours. This is ... (call sign) ...
Thanking you for your participation. I will stand by for anyone desiring further information on ARES ... (your call).

SLO COUNTY VHF/UHF REPEATERS & NETS

LOCATION FREQ. ZONE CALLSIGN Notes

144 VOICE

Santa Maria	145.140-		WA6ARG	
Tassajara	145.330-	100??	W6BHZ	1 & 2
Arr. Grande	145.350-	141.3	WB6BGK	
Rocky Butte	146.620-		KD6EKH	
Lopez	146.670-		N6RAN	
Cal. Poly.	146.760-		W6BHZ	1 & 3
Cuesta	146.800-		WB6FMC	
Mt. Lowe	146.865-	127.3	W7AZF	
Paso Robles	146.880-	88.5	W6YDZ	
Santa Maria	146.940-		WB6IYY	
Templeton	146.980-		W6YDZ	
St. Barbara	147.000+	131.8		
Santa Ynez	147.210+	131.8	??	:Figureroa
Coalinga	147.240-	100.0	W6DCP	
Cambria	147.270+		KC6TOX	
Tassajara	147.390-		W6BHZ	1 & 4

PACKET NODES

Cuesta Peak	145.030		WB6FMC-1:SNLUI
Rocky Butte	145.050		KD6EKH-10:SIMEON

PACKET BBS's

County EOC	145.030		W7AZF
County EOC	145.050		W7AZF
Atascadero	145.050		WW6L:ATABB
Santa Maria	145.030		KM6RZ

440 VOICE

Tassajara	442.300+	127.3	W6BHZ	1 & 5
Cuesta Peak	442.700+		WB6FMC	
Mt. Lowe	443.425+	127.3	W7AZF	
Lopez	443.975+		N6RAN	
Rocky Butte	444.100+		KD6EKH	
Tassajara	444.525+	127.3	WB6HJW	

NOTES:-

- 1 Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club Equipment.
- 2 Planned link to WALA, at William Hill near King City.
- 3 Main Campus repeater.
- 4 Audio from 146.76 & 442.300 used for ham paging.
- 5 Linked to Campus 146.76 repeater full time.
- 6 May be accessed via Cuesta Peak WB6FMC-1.

ARES VHF LOCAL PRIMARY & ALTERNATE SIMPLEX FREQS*

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
COUNTY-WIDE		
EOC/Public Svc	ECC-1 146.520	Comm-A 147.500Com-B
CDF/County Fr	ECC-10 146.460	Comm-3
Red +/-Salv.Arm	ECC-9 147.440	Comm-8
SOUTH CNTY	ECC-2 146.580	Comm-6 147.530Com-9
CENTRAL	ECC-8 147.560	Comm-11 146.430Com-2
Cal-Poly	ECC-16 146.490	Comm-4
ESTERO		
Los Osos/Bywd	ECC-11 146.400	Comm-1 147.470Com-9
Morro Bay	ECC-5 147.530	Comm-10 147.470Com-9
CAMBRIA	ECC-12 146.580	Comm-6 147.410Com-7
NORTH CNTY		
Atascadero	ECC-3 147.470	Comm-9 147.530Com-10
Paso Robles	ECC-6 146.550	Comm-5 147.530Com-10

Additional Secondary frequencies to be assigned as needed.
* The National Simplex Frequency is 146.52

CW/PHONE NETS

Estero	Simp Net	146.40	7:30 PM Wed.
SCN/SB	St. Barb.	145.350-	2100 VHF Sec Net
SCN/2	S. Calif.	3705	2000 CW Sl Spd. Net
SCN/V	S. Calif.	146.82-	2100 VHF Sect. Net
RN6/2	Sixth Reg.	7278	1530 SSB Reg/Cyc2
PAN/2	Pac. Area	14345/7293	1030/1430 SSB Area/Cyc2
RN6/4	Sixth Reg.	3655	1945/2130 CW Area/Cyc4
PAN/4	Pac. Area	3651/7052	2030 CW Area/Cyc4

ARES/RACES NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedure will be used by served agencies for activating the ARES Network or by County OES for activating the RACES Network:

County-Wide Emergency

The served agency or County OES will call the following individuals until contact is established:

- 1st - District Emergency Coordinator
- 2nd - Any Emergency Coordinator
- 3rd - Any Assistant Emergency Coordinator

Local Emergency

The served agency or County OES will call the following individuals until contact is established:

- 1st - Local Emergency Coordinator
- 2nd - Local Assistant Emergency Coordinator
- 3rd - District Emergency Coordinator

Once contact is established with any ARES or RACES Emergency Coordinator, the served agency will not proceed any further. It is the responsibility of the contacted ARES or RACES Emergency Coordinator to contact needed ARES or RACES members.

Information Needed

The following information will be needed from the served agency or County OES:

- Nature of the emergency
- Location of the emergency
- Type of communications needed
- Anticipated number of communicators needed
- Name of Contact Person at the incident location

NOTE:- All Emergency Coordinators are listed on the back page of this Newsletter.

REPEATER GUIDELINES FOR EMERGENCIES

The following Guidelines have been established for Repeater use during emergencies unless changed to meet tactical needs. The Primary Repeater for any incident will always be 146.865. Secondary Repeaters will be used for staffing, logistics, and health & welfare traffic.

LOCAL A "Local" incident is defined as any incident that is limited to a specific ARES/RACES area.

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
SOUTH COUNTY	146.865	146.670	146.940
CENTRAL	146.865	146.800	146.760
ESTERO	146.865	146.800	146.620
NORTH COAST	146.865	146.270	146.620
NORTH COUNTY	146.865	146.800	146.880

COUNTY WIDE A "county-Wide" incident is defines as any incident that involves more than one ARES/RACES area.

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Incident Comm.	146.865	443.425	
Additional Secondaries			
South		146.670	
North		146.880	
No. Coast		146.620	
Staffing/Logistics		146.800	146.880
Health Welfare		146.800	
Public Info.		146.940	
Out of County South		145.120	147.210
Out of County North/East		146.880	147.240

Simplex frequencies can and should be used whenever possible to reduce traffic on the Repeaters - see adjacent column

